



Director of
Central
Intelligence

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National Intelligence Daily

Tuesday
22 May 1979

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The Overnight Reports, printed on yellow paper as the final section of the *Daily*, will often contain materials that update the Situation Reports and Briefs and Comments.



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SPECIAL ANALYSES

USSR: Signs of Support for Romanov

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Leningrad party chief Grigoriy Romanov, at 56 one of the younger Soviet leaders with some prospect of eventually securing the top party post, has strengthened his support in the Central Committee through personnel changes that probably required at least tacit approval by senior party secretaries Kirilenko and Suslov. As a candidate for succession to General Secretary Brezhnev, Romanov, like other younger Politburo members, has serious handicaps, including his location outside the center of power in Moscow. His chances in the second phase of a two-stage succession, however, have been enhanced by this broadened base of support and by the apparent approval of the two senior leaders.

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Since 1970, when Romanov became Leningrad party chief, most of those who have been released from party posts in his region have received either "lateral" assignments that left their Central Committee status unchanged or promotions to positions that won them election to the Central Committee. In addition to incumbent Leningrad officials, whose Central Committee representation increased at the last party congress in 1976, he now has a number of former Leningrad associates on the Committee.

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The trend has continued since 1976, with several Leningraders moving up to posts that should result in election to the next Central Committee in 1981. The group of potential Romanov supporters includes three former Leningrad officials who were assigned to ambassadors to East European countries--posts that traditionally have called for Central Committee membership.

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These personnel actions affecting associates of Romanov apparently have had the support, perhaps actively

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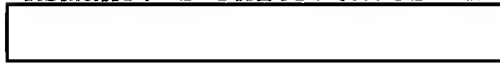
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sought, of Kirilenko and Suslov. As the senior cadres secretary, Kirilenko had to give at least tacit approval to the assignments

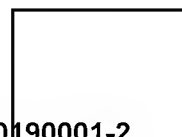
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Kirilenko has also supported Romanov's initiatives in economic management.



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OVERNIGHT REPORTS

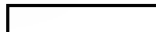
(The items in the Overnight Reports section have not been coordinated within the intelligence community. They are prepared overnight by the Office of Current Operations with analyst comment where possible from the production offices of NFAC.)

China

Sunday's issue of *People's Daily* highlighted the purge of two ranking officials in Hunan Province, one of the few provinces whose leadership had not undergone a major reorganization since the return to power of Vice Premier Deng Xiaoping. The US Embassy in Beijing commented yesterday that the form of presentation in *People's Daily* also had raised the possibility of new pressure on Hunan party leader Mao Zhiyong, who reportedly was under attack late last year for his alleged failure to endorse Deng's empirical line. The Embassy noted that significant changes in Hunan would inevitably raise questions about Chairman Hua Guofeng, who probably has retained a power base there. It added, however, that the treatment of the dismissals in *People's Daily* seemed to be seeking to place some distance between Hua and the troubles in Hunan. 

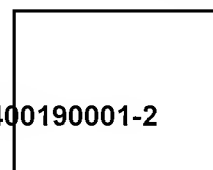
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China-Vietnam

According to the New China News Agency, Chinese and Vietnamese Red Cross delegations would meet this morning on the Chinese side of the border "to discuss matters relating to the release of all captives by both sides at an earliest possible date." Yesterday, 120 Vietnamese prisoners and 43 Chinese prisoners were exchanged at a border crossing near the site of today's meeting. 

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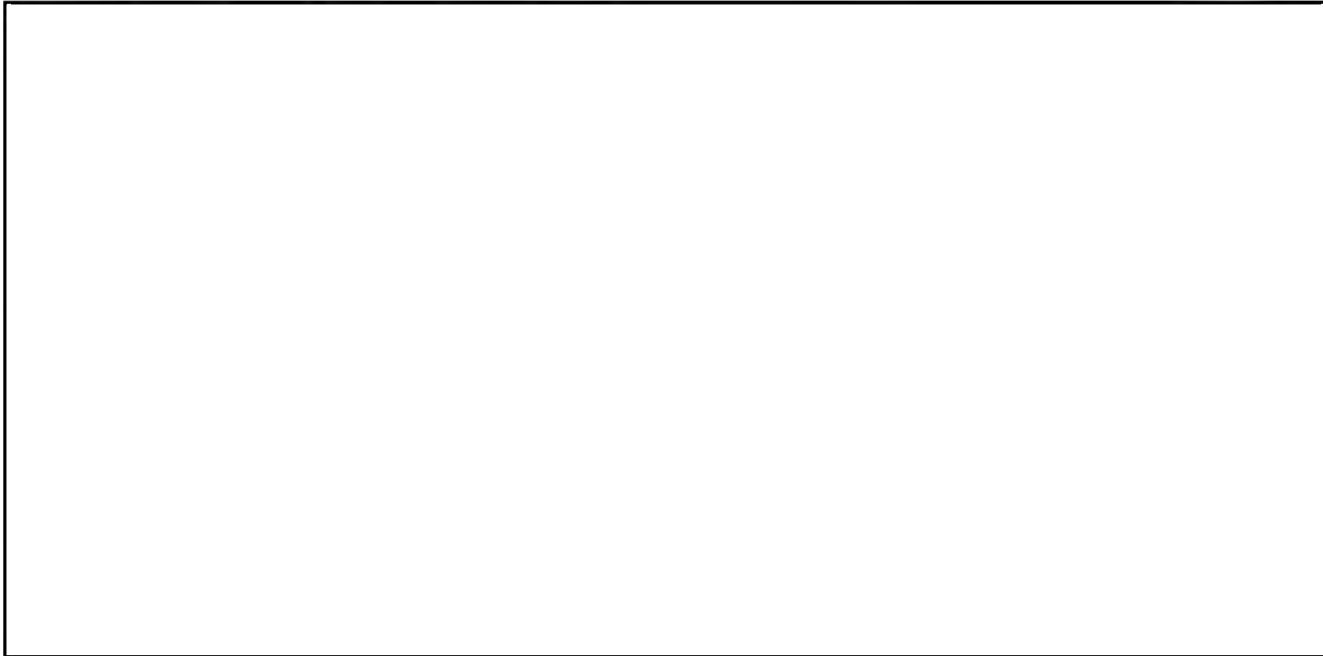


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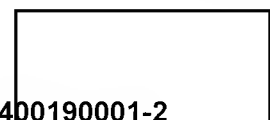


East Germany - West Berlin

The US Mission in West Berlin reports that yesterday for the third time in less than a week--the seventh time this month--an Allied military train bound for West Berlin was delayed while crossing East Germany. The Mission adds that the evidence now "strongly suggests" the delays are indeed deliberate, being staged by the East German railway authority, the *Reichsbahn*, to remind the Allies of its claim for payment of new tariffs for Allied passenger trains. Last year, the Allies began paying higher tariffs to the *Reichsbahn* on their freight cars but refused to do so on passenger cars. The Mission is seeking approval of a proposal it has worked out with the other Allied missions in Berlin that would, it feels, give the *Reichsbahn* the money it wants for pulling the trains across East Germany without raising other issues that might restrict the Allies' right of train access to West Berlin. 

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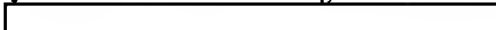


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Angola - South Africa

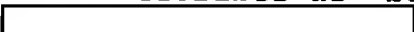
The Angolan Government said yesterday that South African forces on Saturday had attacked a town and border outpost in southeast Angola. The announcement implied that the attacks were continuing. 

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COMMENT: Although we cannot rule out the possibility that the report is accurate, we have no evidence to confirm it and suspect it may be an attempt to blame South Africa for operations actually carried out by guerrillas of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola. The announced locations are in an area of extensive UNITA activity, and the Angolan Government several times has condemned South Africa for actual UNITA military successes. When they occur, South African raids into Angola are directed against Namibian nationalist guerrilla camps, not Angolan military units; we are unaware of any significant Namibian guerrilla camps in the areas mentioned. 

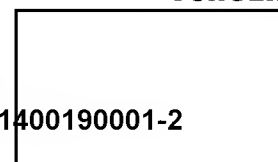
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El Salvador - US

The Farabundo Marti Popular Liberation Forces, a terrorist group, has taken credit for strafing an IBM installation on Sunday, and has termed it the beginning of "war against Yankee imperialism and liberty for political prisoners." The US Embassy in San Salvador comments that, whereas a preceding document from the Farabundo Marti group had only warned in general against foreign collaboration with the military government, the latest communique holds the US directly responsible for the alleged killings, torturing, arrests, and disappearances in El Salvador. The Embassy reports that all US citizens and businesses in El Salvador are aware of the terrorists' threats, which it describes as "becoming increasingly credible." 

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Ecuador-Cuba

The US Embassy in Quito reported yesterday that President-elect Roldos has told an Embassy official he is considering restoring Ecuadorean-Cuban relations--broken since 1963--during his term of office. Roldos said he would discuss the matter with President Carter during a visit to Washington this summer. The Embassy noted that during the recent election campaign, Roldos' advisers had ridiculed the idea of establishing relations with Cuba as a gratuitous provocation to the military--Ecuador's current rulers--and to conservative elements without any reciprocal benefit. Roldos' healthy electoral mandate apparently has, the Embassy commented, permitted him to consider a wider range of options.

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Romania

The US Embassy in Bucharest reports that Romania at midnight Saturday will institute daylight savings time for the first time since 1945. The decision, announced in the party newspaper *Scinteia* over the weekend, reportedly will save Romania about 190 million kilowatt hours annually, around 9.3 percent of its total planned consumption of electricity this year. The Embassy notes that this step is not surprising and probably overdue given Romania's energy problems, including rapidly increasing oil imports and prices.

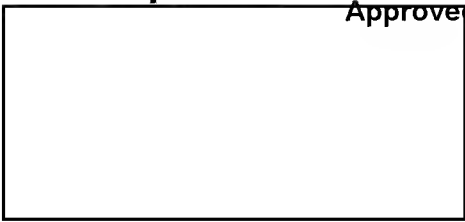
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